

Please do not relax the regulations on media ownership; I feel strongly that the results would continue the undermining of our democracy by limiting the stream of information that reaches most communities in the country. I already see the same stories delivered in endless repetition on the various networks and never hear about many other events of import. The further consolidation of media power in the hands of a few companies that would result from relaxing the regulations even more would, at best, limit the flow of information and, at worst, provide an avenue for demagoguery and propagandizing that would be difficult to challenge. Rather than encouraging competition, more deregulation would (as Ted Turner points out), stifle competition from smaller and newer media companies. Already there is too much "infotainment" rather than intelligent, probing news reporting. Stop the erosion of serious news media. The very fact that so little serious reporting on this issue has appeared at least on television news is indicative of the conflict of interest between the large media companies' financial interests and the need of a democracy to have an informed populace.

I urge you to maintain, and even strengthen, current media ownership limits.